GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:68
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2001
CONVERSION OF STD CALLS INTO LOCAL CALLS
AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA;MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have announced on January 26, 2001 that STD callsup to the distance of 200 kms. will be charged at the rate of local calls;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; (

(c) the criteria adopted for fixing the rate;

(d) the profit/ loss likely to be accrued therefrom;

(e) the details of the present pulse rate being charged;

(f) whether the Government propose to increase the pulse rate from 30 seconds to 60 seconds for local calls of distance more than 100 kms;
(g) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be done; and
(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a) to (h): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (h) OF LOK SABHA STA QUESTION NO. 68 FOR 26TH FEBRUARY, 2001 REGARDING CONVERSION OF STD CALLS INTO LOCAL CALLS.

Concession in STD Calls up to200 kms. has been allowed by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited,but the same are higher than the local call rates. The concessional tariffs are a part of the package under which call charges have been reduced but rental has been brought at par with TRAI orders, with the exception of rural subscribers.The charges for calls above 50 kms and up to 100 kms have been reduced to 1/8th and those for above 100 kms and up to 200 kms have been reduced to half at peak rate.

The concessional rates apply in respect of intra-circle calls and normal rates are applicable in respect of inter-circle calls. The details of concessions announced are given below:-

Distance Slabs for intra-circle calls (in sec)	Peak time pulse (prior to 26/01/2001)	Standard peak time pulse (in sec) as per TRAI	Pulse made applicable from 26/1/2001+	Extent of reduction in Tariff
Above 50 kms. and up to 100 kms.	15	15	120	to 1/8th
Above 100 kms. and up to 200 kms.	15	15	30	to 1/2

+ The rates are applicable round the clock.

The concession in call charges has been given to make the shorter distance calls more affordable and also to optimize service usage for the general masses.

The estimated reduction in revenue on account of this package is about Rs. 250 Crores per annum. Since the tariffs have been revised only on 26th January, 2001, it is too early to review it again.